

Agency 117

Washington State Gambling Commission**Recommendation Summary**

Dollars in Thousands

	Annual FTEs General Fund State	Other Funds	Total Funds
2009-11 Expenditure Authority	164.4	33,755	33,755
Total Maintenance Level	155.5	32,951	32,951
Difference	(8.9)	(804)	(804)
Percent Change from Current Biennium	(5.4)%	(2.4)%	(2.4)%
Performance Changes			
Suspend Plan 1 Uniform COLA #		(377)	(377)
State Data Center Rate Increase		163	163
Subtotal		(214)	(214)
Total Proposed Budget	155.5	32,737	32,737
Difference	(8.9)	(1,018)	(1,018)
Percent Change from Current Biennium	(5.4)%	(3.0)%	(3.0)%
Total Proposed Budget by Activity			
Gambling Licensing, Background and Financial Investigations	30.4	6,403	6,403
General Enforcement and Criminal Intelligence Investigation	56.8	10,953	10,953
Tribal-State Compact Negotiation, Regulation Program, and Investigations	59.5	11,261	11,261
Other Statewide Adjustments	8.9	4,120	4,120
Total Proposed Budget	155.5	32,737	32,737

ACTIVITY DESCRIPTIONS**Gambling Licensing, Background and Financial Investigations**

The Washington State Gambling Commission is statutorily charged to enforce the provisions of the Gambling Act of 1973. The commission carries out this responsibility through a system of regulation and enforcement consisting of several interrelated activities. The commission requires that individuals and businesses apply for and obtain a license before conducting authorized gambling activities. The application and approval process includes an extensive investigation of fund sources and criminal records to prevent criminal interests from gaining a foothold in Washington gambling businesses to protect the public from being victimized.

The licensing process is required by statute to generate the funds necessary to cover all costs of licensing and enforcement.

General Enforcement and Criminal Intelligence Investigation

The Washington State Gambling Commission uses a combination of undercover and overt investigations to identify and seek prosecution of illegal gambling activities, cheating, theft, and racketeering.

GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS

The commission uses administrative rules and regulatory enforcement to ensure gambling is legal and honest, and requires that licensees maintain records that accurately document all gambling activity. Local jurisdictions rely on the commission's regulatory authority and these records to substantiate the millions in taxes collected annually. Absent the commission's activity in this area, this burden would fall entirely to local law enforcement.

Tribal-State Compact Negotiation, Regulation Program, and Investigations

Federal law requires the state to negotiate in good faith with Indian tribes to provide these sovereign nations the opportunity to engage in casino-type gambling activities that are allowed in some form in the state of Washington. The tribes are only allowed to engage in these activities through a compact with the state that is negotiated and regulated by the commission. The Washington State Gambling Commission provides training, tests gambling equipment, and completes inspections and investigations in cooperation with the tribes to assure gambling is conducted fairly and honestly.

Other Statewide Adjustments

This item reflects proposed compensation and other adjustments that were not allocated to individual agency activities. This agency will assign these costs to the proper activities after the budget is enacted.